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Maryland Monthly Labor Review

June, 1994

Maryland
Department of Economic & Employment Development

Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Mark L. Wasserman, Secretary

LABOR FORCE DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Employment in Maryland increased for the fifth consecutive month in June, rising to a record high for the month. However, employment growth lagged slightly behind that of the labor force, causing the jobless rate to inch up from 5.3 percent in May to 5.6 in June. Jobless increases, resulting, in large part, from an influx of seasonal jobseekers, are fairly typical during June. This year's upturn is quite modest when compared to the average increase of between 0.5 and 0.6 percentage points.

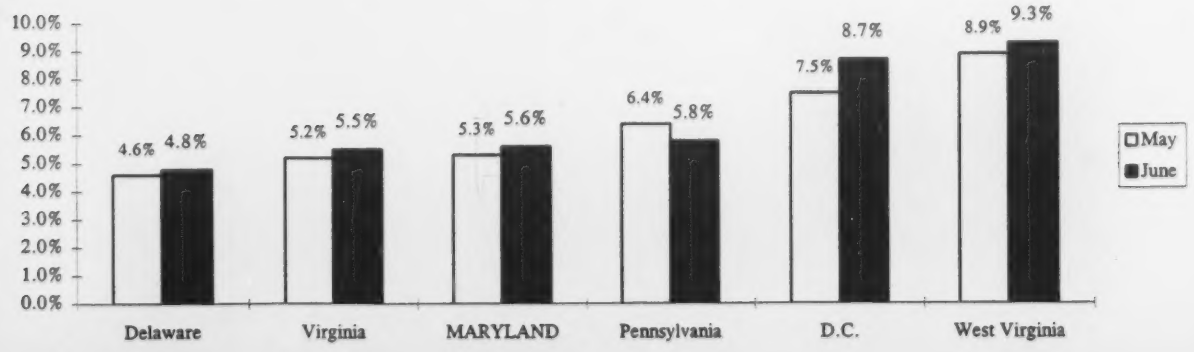
As students and summer jobseekers continued to enter the labor market, Maryland's labor force grew by just over 47,200 persons. Employment also expanded, by about 35,600 people, reaching a monthly high of 2,543,593. June's employment increase, while the largest gain of the year and the highest for the month since 1989, fell short of labor force expansion, causing unemployment to swell to 151,693.

Following seasonal adjustment, employment growth sufficiently accommodated labor force expansion, allowing joblessness to drop somewhat from 5.4 percent to 5.2 percent. The movement in the seasonally adjusted estimate bodes well for the Maryland economy, signaling that "real" economic growth is occurring.

	Unadjusted		Seasonally Adjusted	
	June 1994	May 1994	June 1994	May 1994
Civilian Labor Force	2,695,286	2,648,068	2,664,457	2,658,820
Total Employment	2,543,593	2,508,027	2,525,408	2,514,771
Total Unemployment	151,693	140,041	139,049	144,049
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.3	5.2	5.4
National Unemployment Rate	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.0

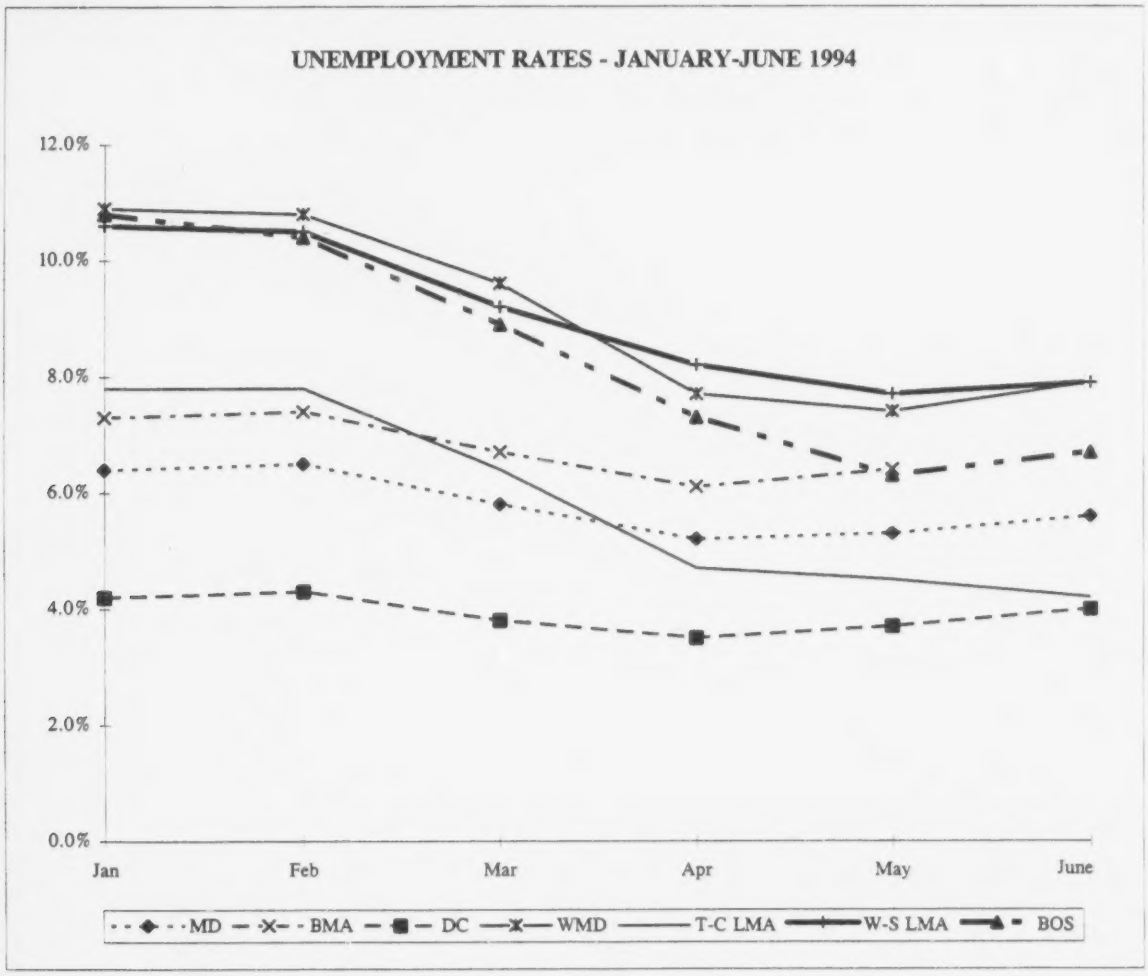
With the exception of Pennsylvania, unemployment rates throughout the region rose in response to labor force expansion. The largest movement occurred in the District of Columbia where the jobless rate rose more than a full percentage point to 8.7 percent in June. Statewide unemployment rates in June ranged from a low of 4.8 percent in Delaware to a high of 9.3 percent in West Virginia.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN NEIGHBORING STATES–JUNE 1994



TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - MARYLAND AND REGIONS

Area	JUNE 1994		MAY 1994	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Maryland	151,693	5.6%	140,041	5.3%
Baltimore Metropolitan Area	82,102	6.8%	76,249	6.4%
Maryland's DC Suburbs	45,376	4.0%	41,199	3.7%
Western Maryland	9,068	7.9%	8,453	7.4%
Talbot-Caroline LMA	1,471	4.2%	1,531	4.5%
Wicomico-Somerset LMA	4,784	7.9%	4,474	7.7%
Balance of State	8,891	6.7%	8,134	6.3%



REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

Labor force patterns in the Baltimore Metro Area were indicative of the statewide trend. The regional jobless rate, reacting to labor force expansion, rose from 6.4 percent to 6.8 percent. Baltimore City's rate, the highest in the area, moved back into double-digits at 10.3 percent in June. Rising unemployment was the norm throughout the region with the exception of Queen Anne's County. Howard County's rate, while remaining one of the lowest in the region, rose to 4.4 percent—its highest level to date in 1994. During June, seasonal hiring in the services, trade and construction industries buoyed industrial activity.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

Employment in the region advanced by about 15,400 persons, however, the number of unemployed were also higher, causing the jobless rate to inch up from 3.7 percent to 4.0 percent. Labor force expansion outpaced employment gains, pushing up jobless rates throughout the region. In general, industrial activity in the region followed the expected seasonal norm. The services industry was the primary source of openings in June, with amusements, business services and engineering/management firms reporting the largest gains.

WESTERN MARYLAND

The number of employed in the region were slightly fewer while the number of unemployed rose by 615 persons, pushing the jobless rate up by 0.5 percentage points to 7.9 percent. Unemployment rates rose throughout the area, with Allegany's showing the largest upward movement. Seasonal job growth in the region was at a minimum during June, creating a tight labor market for incoming jobseekers. Hiring was reported in the region's services industries, however, this hiring was outweighed by semester break reductions in education and related industries.

TALBOT-CAROLINE LMA

Unemployment in this area, unlike others in the state, declined from 4.5 percent to 4.2 percent. Locally, trends were mixed. Caroline County's rate, falling by almost a full percentage point to 5.2 percent, showed the largest movement. Hiring by local food processors helped to ease unemployment down in the county.

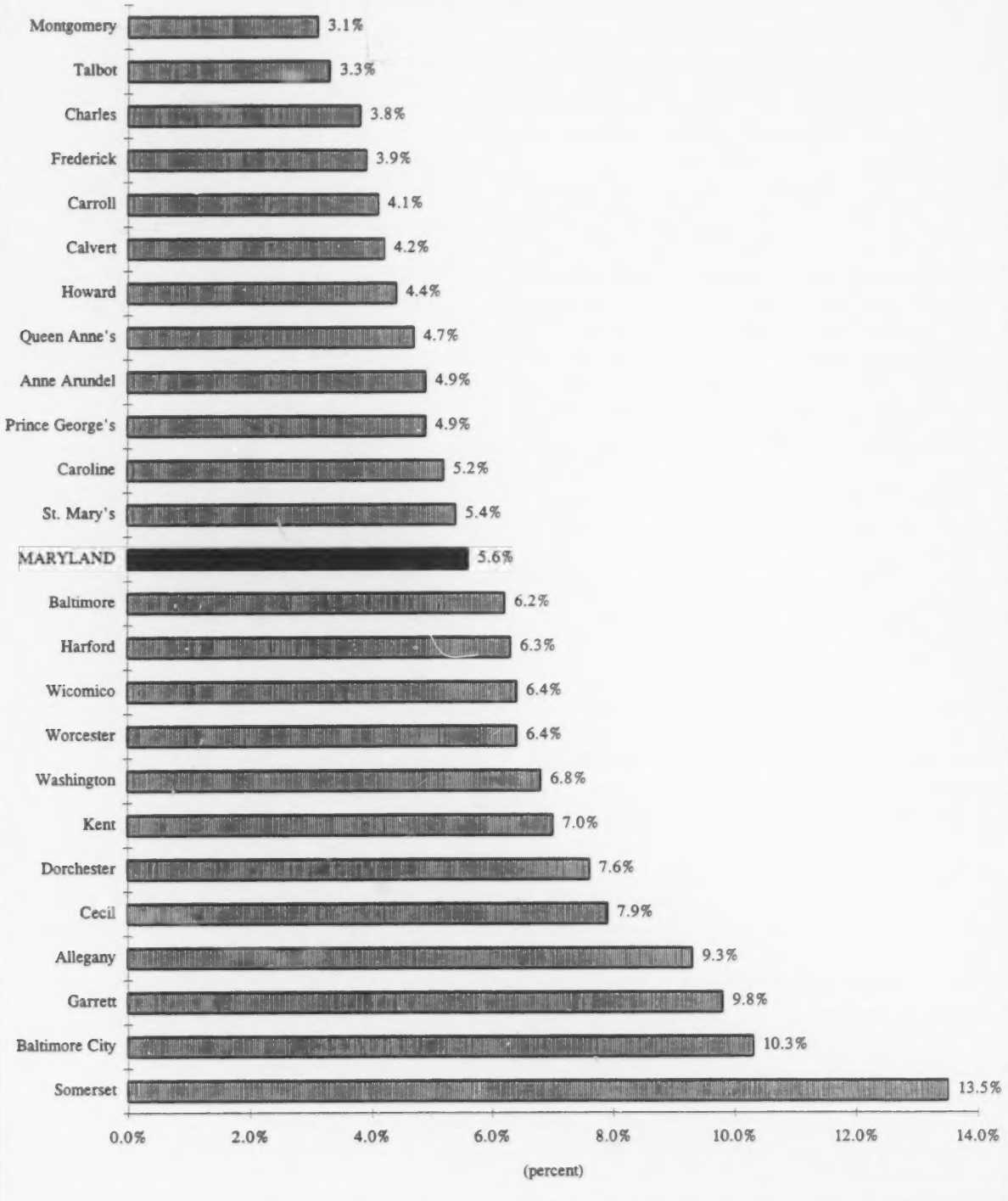
WICOMICO-SOMERSET LMA

The addition of about 300 people to the area's unemployment rolls pushed joblessness up slightly from 7.7 percent to 7.9 percent. The regional upturn was confined solely to Somerset where labor force expansion increased the county's jobless rate to a statewide high during June.

BALANCE OF STATE

While seasonal expansion helped to increase the number of jobholders in the region, a surge in the number of jobseekers entering the labor market caused the jobless rate to rise from 6.3 percent to 6.7 percent. At the local level, unemployment rates were higher in all but Dorchester and Worcester counties. Seasonal hiring in food processing and tourism-related businesses helped to ease down jobless rates in these counties. Worcester County's rate was the most improved of the two, falling by more than a full percentage point to 6.4 percent in June.

LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES--JUNE 1994



Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development
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STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
JUNE 1994

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	JUNE	MAY*	JUNE	MAY*	JUNE	MAY*	JUNE	MAY*	JUNE 1993***
MARYLAND	2,695,286	2,648,068	2,543,593	2,508,027	151,693	140,041	5.6	5.3	6.7
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,215,114	1,196,076	1,133,012	1,119,827	82,102	76,249	6.8	6.4	8.1
BALTIMORE CITY	321,331	315,895	288,085	284,733	33,246	31,162	10.3	9.9	11.8
ANNE ARUNDEL	226,349	222,739	215,151	212,648	11,198	10,091	4.9	4.5	6.3
BALTIMORE	369,186	363,790	346,279	342,249	22,907	21,541	6.2	5.9	7.8
CARROLL	67,448	66,570	64,693	63,941	2,755	2,629	4.1	3.9	5.7
HARFORD	99,354	97,687	93,130	92,046	6,224	5,641	6.3	5.8	6.7
HOWARD	113,804	111,940	108,852	107,585	4,952	4,355	4.4	3.9	4.6
QUEEN ANNE'S	17,642	17,456	16,821	16,626	821	830	4.7	4.8	5.4
D. C. AREA	1,137,107	1,117,525	1,091,731	1,076,326	45,376	41,199	4.0	3.7	4.7
CALVERT	32,663	32,195	31,300	30,859	1,363	1,336	4.2	4.1	5.1
CHARLES	60,143	59,122	57,847	57,031	2,296	2,091	3.8	3.5	4.9
FREDERICK	93,796	92,247	90,146	88,874	3,650	3,373	3.9	3.7	4.5
MONTGOMERY	482,110	473,745	466,930	460,341	15,180	13,404	3.1	2.8	3.6
PRINCE GEORGE'S	468,393	460,216	445,507	439,221	22,886	20,995	4.9	4.6	5.7
WESTERN MARYLAND	114,165	113,590	105,097	105,137	9,068	8,453	7.9	7.4	10.0
ALLEGANY	34,421	34,380	31,209	31,386	3,212	2,994	9.3	8.7	11.5
GARRETT	13,995	13,776	12,624	12,484	1,371	1,292	9.8	9.4	12.1
WASHINGTON	65,749	65,434	61,264	61,267	4,485	4,167	6.8	6.4	8.8
TALBOT-CAROLINE LMA	35,104	33,834	33,633	32,303	1,471	1,531	4.2	4.5	5.4
CAROLINE	16,269	15,772	15,416	14,806	853	966	5.2	6.1	7.8
TALBOT	18,835	18,062	18,217	17,497	618	565	3.3	3.1	3.4
WICOMICO-SOMERSET LMA	60,866	58,319	56,082	53,845	4,784	4,474	7.9	7.7	8.0
SOMERSET	12,316	11,668	10,654	10,229	1,662	1,439	13.5	12.3	13.0
WICOMICO	48,550	46,651	45,428	43,616	3,122	3,035	6.4	6.5	6.7
BALANCE OF STATE	132,931	128,723	124,040	120,589	8,891	8,134	6.7	6.3	7.5
CECIL	38,664	37,832	35,623	35,267	3,041	2,565	7.9	6.8	8.2
DORCHESTER	17,387	16,827	16,073	15,468	1,314	1,359	7.6	8.1	8.3
KENT	11,126	10,435	10,349	9,943	777	492	7.0	4.7	6.6
ST. MARY'S	44,138	42,574	41,772	40,436	2,366	2,138	5.4	5.0	6.7
WORCESTER	21,616	21,055	20,223	19,475	1,393	1,580	6.4	7.5	7.5
UNITED STATES**	132,115,000	130,602,000	123,864,000	122,946,000	8,251,000	7,656,000	6.2	5.9	7.1

*Estimates for the state are revised.

**Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

***Data for 1994 are not directly comparable with data for 1993 and earlier years. Further information is available upon request.

NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF WORK

Seasonal expansion continued to sustain Maryland's nonagricultural payroll activity during June. While June's report represents the fourth consecutive month of rising employment, the gain of just over 13,500 jobs was only about one-half of the normal seasonal upturn. Hiring over the month was confined to the private sector. Employment rose in every major industry line, with advances in the services and trade industries leading the expansion.

The services industry, despite a drop of 3,000 jobs in educational services, was the top job producer during June with a net gain of 8,500 jobs. A number of services industries reported higher employment levels in June. Amusements and recreation led the expansion, accounting for about three out of every five jobs added in the services sector. In business services, the call by area employers for temporary help to cover vacation schedules of regular employees helped to boost the industry job count. Meanwhile, hotels added staff to accommodate the incoming vacation traffic and engineering/management firms, benefiting from the pick-up in construction, added jobs.

The trade industry, second in line in job generation, contributed about 6,700 jobs to the labor market in June. This increase, which extended the string of consecutive gains in this industry to four months, was the best gain for the month since 1991. The upturn occurred primarily in the retail component where hiring at restaurants and fast food chains accounted for just over two-thirds of the industry upturn. Food stores also showed signs of seasonal expansion, reporting the addition of about 1,200 jobs over the month.

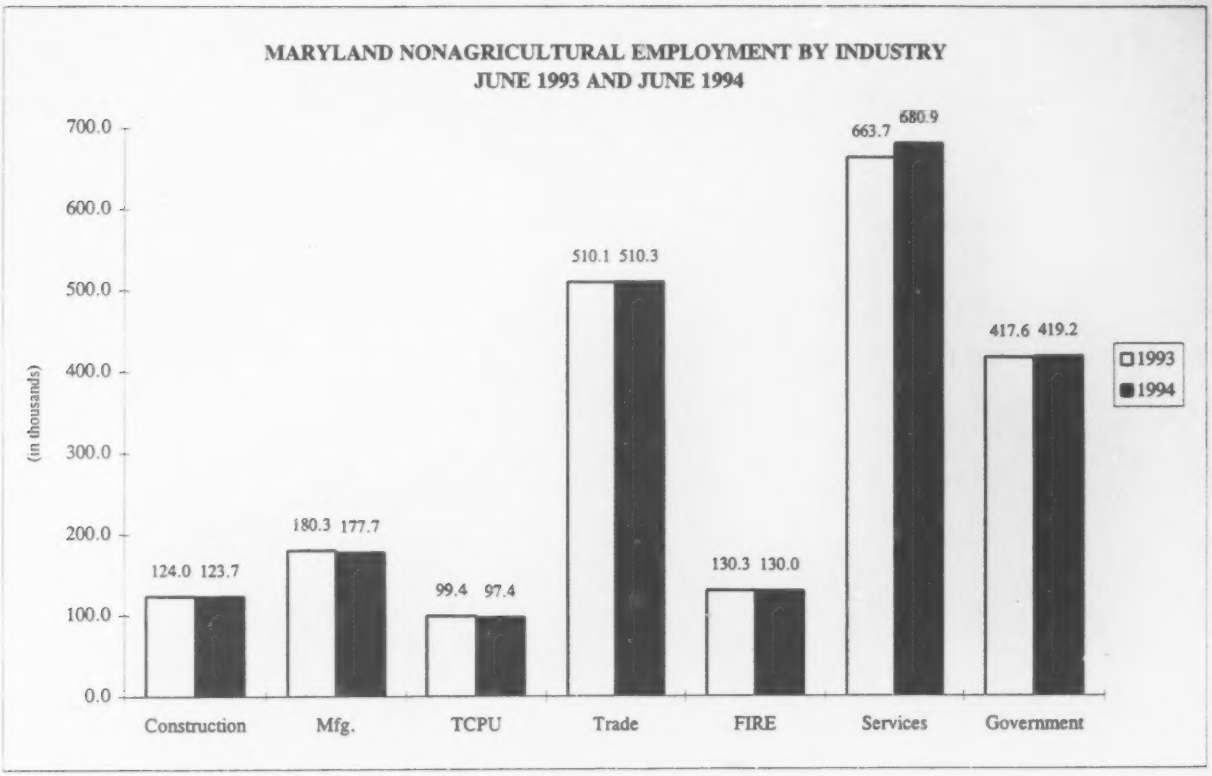
Elsewhere on industry payrolls, in TCPU, gains in communications and seasonal hiring in trucking and warehousing carried the industry performance. The upturn in this industry, which netted out to about 200 jobs was, however, well below seasonal expectations. Employment in FIRE also expanded seasonally, adding about 600 jobs over the month. Local realtors were responsible for about two-thirds of the industry hiring.

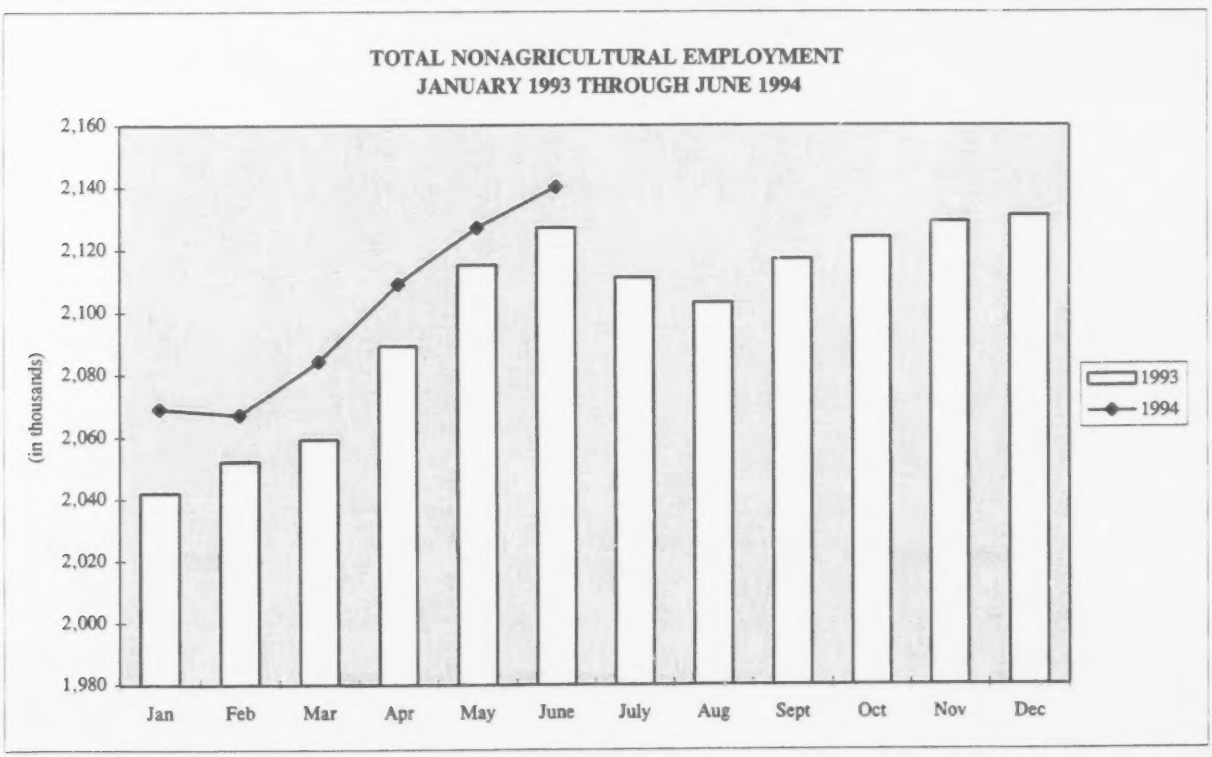
During June, the goods-producing sector, which includes the construction and manufacturing industries, turned in a combined total of 5,300 jobs. About three out of every four of those jobs went to workers skilled in the construction trades. Special trade contractors spearheaded the overall expansion in the construction sector, accounting for just over 50.0 percent of the monthly gain.

The manufacturing industry made substantial headway during June. The addition of 1,300 jobs during June represented the largest monthly increase in factory employment in the past two years. Even with this increase, there are currently about 2,600 fewer manufacturing jobs than there were a year ago. Just over two-thirds of the hiring during June occurred in durable goods industries. A number of durable goods producers reported rising employment, with the largest singular gain, of about 400 jobs, occurring in transportation equipment. In nondurable goods industries, seasonal hiring in food processing produced the most noteworthy movement.

Manufacturing employers, in general, chose to hire additional workers rather than lengthen work schedules during June. Production workers in Maryland factories put in a 41.7 hour workweek during June, little changed from May's schedule of 41.8 hours. Earnings were slightly lower, dropping by about $1.30 to $543.77 per week. In durable goods industries, workweeks were shortened by 0.3 of an hour to 43.0 hours. This reduction, when coupled with a slight drop in hourly pay rates, cut weekly checks by about 1.0 percent to $596.84. Meanwhile, in nondurable goods, the workweek was extended slightly from 40.6 hours to 40.8 hours. This increase helped to boost weekly paychecks by almost $3.00 to $503.47.

Rounding out the monthly industry profile, the government sector, the sole contributor on the debit side, dropped as usual in June as schools broke for the summer vacation. The depth of the overall decline was, however, lessened somewhat by seasonal hiring at parks, recreational facilities and in other outdoor programs.


MARYLAND NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
JUNE 1993 AND JUNE 1994
(in thousands)
700.0
600.0
500.0
400.0
300.0
200.0
100.0
0.0
124.0 123.7
180.3 177.7
99.4 97.4
510.1 510.3
130.3 130.0
663.7 680.9
417.6 419.2
Construction
Mfg.
TCPU
Trade
FIRE
Services
Government
1993
1994


TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT
JANUARY 1993 THROUGH JUNE 1994
(in thousands)
2,160
2,140
2,120
2,100
2,080
2,060
2,040
2,020
2,000
1,980
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
June
July
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
1993
1994

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
JUNE 1994

Industry	June 1994	May** 1994	June 1993	Percent Change June 1993-June 1994
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	2,140.3	2,126.7	2,126.6	0.6
Goods Producing	302.5	297.2	305.5	-1.0
Mining	1.1	1.1	1.2	-8.3
Construction	123.7	119.7	124.0	-0.2
Heavy Construction	15.1	14.5	14.8	2.0
Manufacturing	177.7	176.4	180.3	-1.4
Durable Goods	87.1	86.2	87.6	-0.6
Lumber & Wood Products	3.8	3.8	3.9	-2.6
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	6.8	6.7	6.6	3.0
Concrete, Gypsum, Plaster	4.1	4.0	4.0	2.5
Other Stone, Clay, & Glass	2.7	2.7	2.6	3.8
Primary Metal Industries	8.1	8.1	8.6	-5.8
Blast Furnaces	6.5	6.5	7.0	-7.1
Fabricated Metal Products	8.3	8.3	8.4	-1.2
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	3.1	3.1	3.2	-3.1
Other Fabricated Metal Products (Inc.342,343,345-349)	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0
Industrial Machinery	14.6	14.5	14.8	-1.4
Refrigeration & Service Machinery	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0
Other Industrial Machinery & Equipment (Inc. 352-357)	8.2	8.1	8.5	-3.5
Electronic Equipment	13.2	13.0	13.2	0.0
Communications Equipment	5.2	5.0	4.8	8.3
Electronic Component	3.1	3.1	3.3	-6.1
Other Electronic Equipment	4.9	4.9	5.1	-3.9
Transportation Equipment	10.8	10.4	10.4	3.8
Motor Vehicles	4.7	4.5	4.7	0.0
Other Transportation (Inc. 372-375,379)	4.1	3.9	3.7	10.8
Instruments & Related	16.3	16.3	16.6	-1.8
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0
Nondurable Goods	90.6	90.2	92.7	-2.3
Food & Kindred Products	21.4	21.2	22.2	-3.6
Meat Products	4.8	4.8	5.1	-5.9
Beverages	4.1	4.0	3.9	5.1
Other Food & Kindred (Inc. 202-207)	7.8	7.7	8.2	-4.9
Textile Mill, Apparel	8.7	8.7	9.0	-3.3
Paper & Allied Products	8.6	8.5	8.7	-1.1
Printing & Publishing	27.6	27.6	27.7	-0.4
Chemicals and Allied Products	13.4	13.5	14.1	-5.0
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	8.5	8.4	8.7	-2.3

Industry	June 1994	May** 1994	June 1993	Percent Change June 1993-June 1994
Service Producing	1,837.8	1,829.5	1,821.1	0.9
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	97.4	97.2	99.4	-2.0
Transportation	55.7	55.7	56.0	-0.5
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0
Trucking & Warehousing	28.2	27.9	28.5	-1.1
Communications & Utilities	41.7	41.5	43.4	-3.9
Communications	26.7	26.5	26.8	-0.4
Electric, Gas, Sanitary	15.0	15.0	16.6	-9.6
Trade	510.3	503.6	510.1	0.0
Wholesale Trade	101.2	100.9	101.6	-0.4
Retail Trade	409.1	402.7	408.5	0.1
Building Materials, Garden Supplies	17.8	17.7	17.8	0.0
General Merchandise Stores	40.1	39.9	41.4	-3.1
Food Stores	65.7	64.5	64.3	2.2
Eating & Drinking Places	139.4	135.0	139.5	-0.1
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	130.0	129.4	130.3	-0.2
Finance	59.8	59.6	58.7	1.9
Depository Institutions	39.3	39.1	38.9	1.0
Commercial Banks	25.2	25.2	25.5	-1.2
Insurance	35.7	35.7	36.9	-3.3
Insurance Carriers	23.8	23.9	24.5	-2.9
Real Estate	34.5	34.1	34.7	-0.6
Services	680.9	672.4	663.7	2.6
Business Services	145.9	144.3	140.6	3.8
Health Services	180.6	179.9	176.8	2.1
Hospitals	81.6	81.3	81.9	-0.4
Legal Services	15.8	15.5	15.8	0.0
Educational Services	36.7	39.7	34.4	6.7
Private Colleges, Universities	20.3	22.7	18.1	12.2
Total Government	419.2	426.9	417.6	0.4
Total Federal Government	132.1	131.8	135.6	-2.6
Total State & Local Government	287.1	295.1	282.0	1.8
Total State Government	95.0	99.4	93.7	1.4
State Education	32.2	36.7	31.7	1.6
Other State Government	62.8	62.7	62.0	1.3
Total Local Government	192.1	195.7	188.3	2.0
Local Education	113.7	119.0	113.0	0.6
Other Local Government	78.4	76.7	75.3	4.1

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.
NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding and exclusion of some SIC's.
Data are not seasonally adjusted.
**Estimates are revised.
Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
BY REGION--JUNE 1994

Industry	Baltimore Metropolitan Area		Maryland Portion D.C. Suburbs		Western Maryland		Eastern Shore-Southern Maryland	
	June 1994	May 1994**	June 1994	May 1994**	June 1994	May 1994**	May 1994	Apr. 1994**
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,103.0	1,100.2	788.1	780.8	94.5	95.1	152.7	148.6
Goods Producing	164.7	162.4	86.8	85.2	20.9	21.0	30.6	30.0
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.2
Construction	58.2	56.5	52.4	51.0	5.2	5.0	8.3	8.3
Manufacturing	106.3	105.7	34.2	34.0	15.1	15.3	22.1	21.5
Durable Goods	53.9	53.6	17.3	17.2	6.7	6.7	8.7	8.7
Nondurable Goods	52.4	52.1	16.9	16.8	8.4	8.6	13.4	12.8
Service Producing	938.3	937.8	701.3	695.6	73.6	74.1	122.1	118.6
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	51.7	51.8	31.9	31.5	5.2	5.4	8.4	8.3
Trade	253.1	251.2	190.0	187.7	24.8	24.7	41.3	37.9
Wholesale Trade	59.1	58.8	31.0	31.0	4.5	4.5	5.8	5.6
Retail Trade	194.0	192.4	159.0	156.7	20.3	20.2	35.5	32.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	72.7	72.3	47.5	47.3	3.4	3.3	5.3	5.0
Services	352.9	350.9	261.2	257.2	24.2	23.8	39.4	38.6
Total Government	207.9	211.6	170.7	171.9	16.0	16.9	27.7	28.8
Federal	48.1	48.1	75.1	74.3	1.7	1.7	6.8	6.8
State	67.6	69.5	18.7	19.1	4.8	5.3	5.1	6.3
Local	92.2	94.0	76.9	78.5	9.5	9.9	15.8	15.7

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.
**Estimates are revised.
Selected data below the major industry level is available upon request. Estimates are also available for Baltimore City.
Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES
JUNE 1994

Industry	Average Weekly Hours		Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings	
	June 1994	May 1994	June 1994	May 1994	June 1994	May 1994
MARYLAND						
Manufacturing	41.7	41.8	$543.77	$545.07	$13.04	$13.04
Durable Goods	43.0	43.3	596.84	601.87	13.88	13.90
Lumber and Wood Products	39.5	40.1	360.64	370.93	9.13	9.25
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	46.0	46.2	567.64	561.33	12.34	12.15
Primary Metal Industries	46.5	46.2	850.49	844.07	18.29	18.27
Fabricated Metals	42.4	43.2	500.74	516.24	11.81	11.95
Industrial Machinery	43.4	43.3	609.34	603.60	14.04	13.94
Electronic Equipment	40.4	40.5	488.03	487.62	12.08	12.04
Transportation Equipment	43.3	44.6	725.28	759.98	16.75	17.04
Instruments and Related Products	39.8	40.3	557.20	558.16	14.00	13.85
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	39.0	38.8	395.85	398.86	10.15	10.28
Nondurable Goods	40.8	40.6	503.47	500.60	12.34	12.33
Food and Kindred Products	41.3	41.1	499.32	482.10	12.09	11.73
Textile Mill, Apparel	36.9	36.9	301.10	305.16	8.16	8.27
Paper and Allied Products	43.1	43.0	555.99	561.15	12.90	13.05
Printing and Publishing	38.8	38.3	558.72	559.95	14.40	14.62
Chemicals and Allied Products	42.5	42.3	561.00	562.59	13.20	13.30
Rubber and Plastic Products	43.4	44.1	462.64	466.58	10.66	10.58
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA						
Manufacturing	42.1	42.2	$574.67	$576.87	$13.65	$13.67
Durable Goods	43.5	43.8	644.24	651.74	14.81	14.88
Nondurable Goods	40.9	40.8	514.11	512.04	12.57	12.55

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

	June 1994	May 1994	June 1993
Initial Claims	19,298	14,865	20,393
Weeks Claimed	186,560	193,760	218,988
First Payments	7,553	7,385	7,815
Final Payments	3,587	3,717	1,228
Weeks Paid	148,655	158,014	174,876
Net Benefit Amount	$26,823,503	$28,401,564	$31,756,655
Average Check Amount	$180.44	$179.74	$181.60

Initial filings rose in June from 1992 lows in May. Following a modest decline in May, initial claims advanced by nearly 30.0 percent to 19,298. The statewide increase was fueled by reports of higher levels of activity in each of the state's four regions. With the exception of the Princess Anne location, unemployment lines were longer in each of the local offices. The Wheaton and Glen Burnie offices reported the largest volume increases, with claims filings rising by 672 and 410, respectively.

While initial applications were higher, both the number of weeks claimed and weeks paid were fewer during June. Weeks claimed, at 186,560 in June, were down by 3.7 percent from previous month's estimates and nearly 15.0 percent below June 1993's count of 218,988. Just over two-thirds of the statewide drop in weeks claimed occurred in the Baltimore Metro Area. Weekly payments, which fell by about 9,360 over the month, represented 79.7 percent of all weeks claimed in June, down from May's payment ratio of 81.6 percent.

First payments, at 7,553, accounted for over 5.0 percent of weekly compensations in June, up from 4.7 percent in May. Benefit exhaustions dropped slightly over the month, from 3,717 to 3,587—a decline which was confined almost solely to the D.C. Suburban Area.

With fewer checks to issue in June, the outlay from the UI Trust Fund dropped by an estimated $1.6 million to $26.8 million. For those claimants receiving benefits, checks were slightly higher in June at $180.44. At the regional level, claimants filing in the D.C. Suburban Area received the largest checks, with payments averaging $190.55 per week, about 22.0 percent higher than those issued to filers on the Shore.

REGIONAL INDICATORS
JUNE 1994

	BMA	DC Suburbs	Western Maryland	Balance of State
Initial Claims	10,009	5,071	1,833	2,237
Weeks Claimed	97,661	42,298	12,478	16,254
First Payments	4,006	1,880	519	621
Final Payments	1,960	746	189	450
Weeks Paid	79,462	34,587	10,499	13,419
Net Benefit Amount	$14,370,887	$6,590,467	$1,686,786	$2,095,835
Average Check Amount	$180.85	$190.55	$160.66	$156.18

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